

IN THE CLAIMS

The following is a complete listing of the claims, and replaces all earlier versions and listings:

1. - 18. (canceled)

19. (previously presented): A surgical kit for rhinoplasty, including at least first and second surgical implants each having a respective connector element, one of said surgical implants comprising a strut that has at least one portion extending in a first direction, said portion having a plurality of through-openings formed in it and arranged adjacent to each other in a row that extends in said first direction, said through-openings being formed such as to increase the ease with which said strut can be bent in at least one direction transverse to said first direction, and the other of said surgical implants being shaped to serve as a rhinoplastic augment, having an augmenting surface having a predetermined shape to be imparted to external tissue of the patient from a position at which the augment is implanted within the patient, said rhinoplastic augment being one of one of a button, a dorsal augment, a unilateral tip, a bilateral tip, a pair of tips with a Y-connector joined to the tips, a nasal vault reconstruction module, a heart-shaped augment, a septal perforation module and a mesh element, said connector element of said first surgical implant being a female connector element and said connector element of said first surgical implant being a male connector element, said male and female connector elements being respectively shaped such as to be snappingly attachable to each other, and said first and second surgical implants being provided in said kit with said male and female connector elements not snappingly attached to each other.

20. - 32. (canceled)

33. (previously presented): A rhinoplastic surgical kit comprising at least one implantable strut having a first connector element, and at least one implantable rhinoplastic augment having a second connector element, said rhinoplastic augment having an augmenting surface having a predetermined shape to be imparted to external tissue of the patient from a position at which the augment is implanted within the patient, said first and second connector elements being adapted to engage each other in such manner as to secure themselves together without use of screws, said strut having at least one portion lying in a first plane and extending in a first direction, and said first connector element comprising material extending from said strut in a second direction that is perpendicular to said first direction and to said plane and defining a receptacle exhibiting a degree of resilience and at least a portion of which extends from said plane, and said second connector element comprising material having a shape and size to be received snappingly in such receptacle, and said first and second surgical implants being provided in said kit with said first and said second connector elements not engaging each other.

34. (previously presented): A rhinoplastic surgical kit according to Claim 33, wherein said first and second connector elements are shaped to fit together in a mechanical engagement to secure themselves together.

35. (previously presented): A rhinoplastic surgical kit according to Claim 34, wherein said first and second connector elements are shaped to fit together snappingly to secure themselves together.

36. (previously presented): A rhinoplastic surgical kit according to Claim 35, wherein said first connector element fits inside said second connector element, at least one of said connector elements having sufficient resilience to permit said connector

elements to be fitted together into said mechanical engagement to secure themselves together.

37. (previously presented): A rhinoplastic surgical kit according to Claim 36, wherein said second connector element has said resilience.

38. (previously presented): A rhinoplastic surgical kit according to Claim 36, wherein said resilience is due at least in part to said second connector element having one or more portions with a notch.

39. (previously presented): A rhinoplastic surgical kit according to Claim 36, wherein said first connector element has said resilience.

40. (previously presented): A rhinoplastic surgical kit according to Claim 39, wherein said resilience is due at least in part to said first connector element having portions spaced apart from each other which can be squeezed together to bring said first and second connector elements into said mechanical engagement and which are resilient against said second connector element to maintain said mechanical engagement.

41. (previously presented): A rhinoplastic surgical kit according to Claim 36, wherein said first and second connector elements are at least approximately round.

42. (previously presented): A rhinoplastic surgical kit according to Claim 36, wherein said first and second connector elements are at least approximately polygonal.

43. (canceled).

44. (previously presented): A rhinoplastic surgical kit comprising an augment, at least two implantable struts each having a first connector element, and at least one implantable element having a second connector element, said first and second connector elements being adapted to engage each other in such manner as to secure themselves together without use of screws, each said strut having at least one portion lying in a plane, and each said first connector element comprising material extending from its respective said strut in a direction that is perpendicular to said plane of that strut and defining a receptacle exhibiting a degree of resilience and at least a portion of which extends from that plane, and said second connector element comprising material having a shape and size to be received snappingly in either of said receptacles, and said first and second struts and said implantable element being provided in said kit with said first and said second connector elements not engaging each other.